

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method comprising:  
at a device, opening a first connection to a server;  
establishing an information exchange protocol for  
communicating on the first connection;  
at a device, opening a second connection to the server;  
selecting, from connections including the second  
connection, at least one [[a]] connection to be an active  
connection and other connections as passive connections; [[ and]]  
communicating information [[ ]] via the active connection  
using [[the]] an information exchange protocol ~~established for~~  
based on a type of the ~~first~~ active connection; and  
monitoring a predetermined set of parameters corresponding  
to one or more characteristics of the active and passive  
connections to determine whether to  
open one or more additional connections;  
close one or more of the opened connections; and  
change the selected active connection as a passive  
connection and select one or more of the passive connections as  
the active connection.

2. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising communicating information configured for the information exchange protocol using the first connection as the active connection prior to selecting the second connection as the active connection.

3. (original) The method of claim 1 in which the second connection is opened prior to establishing the information exchange protocol.

4. (original) The method of claim 1 in which a single one of the connections is selected as the active connection.

5. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 in which two or more connections are selected as the active connection.

6. (original) The method of claim 1 in which the second connection includes a wireless connection.

7. (currently amended) A method comprising:  
at a device, opening a first connection to a server;  
establishing an information exchange protocol for communicating on the first connection based on a type of the first connection;  
at the device, opening a second connection to the server;  
selecting from the opened connections including the second connection, one or more[[a]] connections to be an active connection;  
communicating information configured for [[the]] an information exchange protocol ~~, that was established for the~~

~~first connection, using~~ corresponding to a type of the active connection; and

monitoring the opened connections for [[a]]one or more parameters selected from [[the]]a group consisting of transmittal rate, latency, and cost of transmittal; and

based on the monitored one or more parameters, determining whether to

open one or more additional connections;  
reselect[[ing]] the active connection to optimize the  
monitored one or more parameters; and  
close one or more additional connections.

8. (original) The method of claim 1 in which the information is communicated in packets that include aggregated information for more than one application.

9. (original) The method of claim 1, 4, or 6 in which the information includes a command that is effected by a module on the server.

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 8 in which the extent of aggregation for each application in the packets that include aggregated information for more than one application is dependent on an indicator of priority for information exchange associated with each application.

11. (previously presented) A method comprising:  
at a device, opening a first connection to a server;  
establishing an information exchange protocol for  
communicating on the first connection based on a type of the  
first connection;

at the device, opening a second connection to the server;  
selecting, from the opened connections including the second  
connection, one or more [[a]] connections to be an active  
connection; [[ and]]

communicating information configured for the information  
exchange protocol[[ ]], that was established for the first  
connection, using the active connection, the information  
comprising a command that causes the server to contact a remote  
system, receive a reply from the remote system, and effect a  
response without transmitting the reply to the device; and  
monitoring a predetermined set of parameters corresponding  
to one or more characteristics of the opened connections to  
determine whether to

open one or more additional connections;  
close one or more of the opened connections; and  
change the selected active connection as a passive  
connection and select one or more of the passive connections as  
the active connection.

12-18. (cancelled)

19. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising a  
processor and software configured to cause the processor to:  
open a first connection to a server;  
establish an information exchange protocol;

open a second connection to a server;  
select from connections including the second connection,  
one or more[[a]] connections to be an active connection;[[ and]]  
communicate information via the active connection using the  
information exchange protocol [[ ]]established for the first  
connection; and  
monitor a predetermined set of parameters corresponding to  
one or more characteristics of the opened connections to  
determine whether to  
open one or more additional connections;  
close one or more of the opened connections; and  
change the selected active connection as a passive  
connection and select one or more of the passive connections as  
the active connection.

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20. (original) The apparatus of claim 19 in which the  
processor is further configured to monitor the connections for a  
parameter selected from the group consisting of signal strength,  
transmittal rate, latency, cost of transmittal, and connection  
integrity; and

reselect the active connection to optimize the parameter.

21. (original) The apparatus of claim 19 in which the  
information is communicated in packets, each of at least some of  
the packets includes aggregated information for different local  
applications.

22. (original) The apparatus of claim 19 in which the  
information includes commands that are effected by a module on  
the server.

23. (currently amended) An article comprising a machine-readable medium that stores machine-executable instructions, the instructions causing a machine to:

open a first connection to a server;  
establish an information exchange protocol;  
open a second connection to a server;  
select from the connections, one or more[[a]] connections to be an active connection;[[and]]  
communicate information via the active connection using the information exchange protocol established for the first connection; and  
monitor a predetermined set of parameters corresponding to one or more characteristics of the opened connections to determine whether to  
open one or more additional connections;  
close one or more of the opened connections; and  
change the selected active connection as a passive connection and select one or more of the passive connections as the active connection.

24. (original) The article of claim 23 in which a single one of the connections is selected as the active connection.

25. (original) The article of claim 23 in which the instructions further cause the machine to monitor the connections for a parameter selected from the group consisting of signal strength, transmittal rate, latency, cost of transmittal, and connection integrity; and

reselect the active connection to optimize the parameter.

26. (original) The article of claim 23 in which the information is communicated in packets, each of at least some of the packets includes aggregated information for different local applications.

27. (original) The article of claim 23 in which the information includes commands that are effected by a module on the server.

28. (currently amended) A system comprising:  
a device, a server, and communication links, in which the device is configured to:  
open a first connection to the server using one of the communication links;  
establish an information exchange protocol;  
open a second connection to the server using another of the communication links;  
select from the opened connections including the second connection, one or more[[a]] connections to be an active connection;  
communicate information [[ ]]via the active connection using the information exchange protocol established for the first connection; and  
monitor a predetermined set of parameters corresponding to one or more characteristics of the opened connections to determine whether to  
open one or more additional connections;  
close one or more of the opened connections; and  
change the selected active connection as a passive

connection and select one or more of the passive connections as the active connection.

29. (original) The system of claim 28 in which at least one of the communication links includes a wireless communication link.

30. (previously presented) The system of claim 28 in which the device is further configured to monitor the connections for a parameter selected from the group consisting of signal strength, transmittal rate, latency, cost of transmittal, and connection integrity; and  
reselect the active connection to optimize the parameter.

31. (previously presented) The system of claim 28 in which the device is further configured to select, from the connections, a connection to be a passive connection.

32. (previously presented) The system of claim 31 in which the passive connection is maintained while at least some of the information is communicated using the active connection.

33. - 37. (cancelled)

38. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 in which the device compares its geographic position to the range of one of the connections.



39. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 in which the device retains outgoing information until reception is acknowledged.

40. (previously presented) The method of claim 39 in which the device monitors a buffer that retains outgoing information to determine whether to transmit additional outgoing information.

41. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 in which the device implements software-based application sockets to connect application input/output streams to the server.

42. (previously presented) The method of claim 7 in which the parameter comprises transmittal rate.

43. (previously presented) The method of claim 7 in which the parameter comprises latency.

44. (previously presented) The method of claim 7 in which the parameter comprises cost of transmittal.

45. (currently amended) A method comprising:  
at a device, opening a first connection to a server;  
establishing an information exchange protocol for  
communicating on the first connection;  
at a device, opening a second connection to the server;  
selecting, from connections including the second  
connection, one or more[[a]] connections to be an active  
connection and another connection to be a passive  
connection;[[and]]  
communicating information using the active connection,  
wherein the same network, security, and compression protocols  
and parameters are used for information exchange as for the  
first connection, while maintaining the passive connection; and  
monitoring a predetermined set of parameters corresponding  
to one or more characteristics of the opened connections to  
determine whether to  
open one or more additional connections;  
close one or more of the opened connections; and  
change the selected active connection as a passive  
connection and select one or more of the passive connections as  
the active connection.

46. (previously presented) The method of claim 45 in  
which the information is communicated in packets that include  
aggregated information for more than one application.

47. (previously presented) The method of claim 45 in  
which the information comprises a command for a module on the  
server; and the method comprises effecting the command by  
contacting a remote server, receiving a reply from the remote

server and effecting a response without transmitting the reply to the device.

48. (previously presented) The method of claim 45 that comprises monitoring the connections for a parameter selected from the group consisting of signal strength, transmittal rate, latency, cost of transmittal, and connection integrity.